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AB

500.36167CX1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE **RECEIVED**

Applicants: TAKAHASHI, et al

APR 18 2001

Serial No.: 09/496,465

Technology Center 2100

Filed: February 2, 2000

For: ELECTRONIC BUSINESS TRANSACTION SYSTEM

Group: 2761

Examiner: G. Morgan

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 & 1.98**

Assistant Commissioner  
for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

April 17, 2001

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application, applicants are submitting herewith a copy of a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and copies of the documents listed in the attached form equivalent to Form PTO-1449 for the Examiner's consideration.

This information disclosure statement is being submitted before the mailing date of a first office action on the merits.

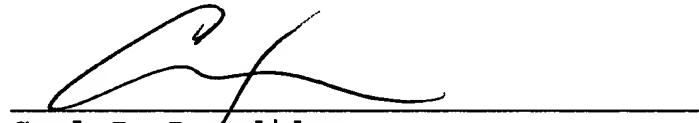
Each of the documents listed on the attached form equivalent to Form PTO-1449 is in the English language.

It is respectfully requested that this information disclosure statement be considered by the Examiner.

Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection

with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (500.36167CX1) please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,



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